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**Cimarron Elementary-Middle School News**

**January 2021 Edition**

**We are resuming our monthly newsletters! They look a bit different, with some added or removed content sections, due to current circumstances under Covid. We hope that you enjoy them!**

**SHOUT OUTS!!!!**

\*Shout out to our students and teachers for showing strong growth on the Middle of Year/Quarter 2 Edulastic assessments! Way to Rise Up! Some will be taking these this month, and we know they will show great growth as well!

\*A HUGE SHOUT OUT to all the sisters, brothers, parents, grandparents, and other family members who are supporting our elementary students every day with online learning. Thank you for helping make sure students are logged in and for troubleshooting internet and computer issues. We appreciate your help so much. THANK YOU!

\*An enormous shout out to the CEMS and CHS staff and teachers for all they have done during these very different times to provide the best education possible to their students, for being tech support, health screening support, parent support, and giving so much time and effort to students.

**Hybrid Learning**

Cimarron Elementary students (grades PreK-4th) can return to the hybrid learning model on Tuesday, January 19. This is the model we were in prior to Thanksgiving. Your child will follow their same schedule for attending onsite as they were in November. If you have any questions, please call your child’s teacher.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be happening throughout this week and possibly next week. If you do not already have a conference scheduled with your child’s teacher, and you want to have a conference, please contact your child’s teacher.

**Extra Support Time**

Please remember that teachers are all available from 3:00-4:00 each school day, Tuesday-Friday, to support students who have questions, who need extra help with assignments, who were absent and need to make up a class, etc. Please encourage your child to take advantage of this time if they are in need of extra support. It can be used occasionally or every day, dependent upon the student’s needs.

**PreK News**

In January our Pre K class is working on the letters Q-T. Rhyming words, and Numbers 17-20. Our theme is “Winter Wonderland”. We will be doing some activities such as making toilet paper roll snowmen. They will practice writing their names on the circle body of a snowman.The children will make a melting snowman. The class will do a temperature experiment using water. We are looking forward to seeing all of our class back on site. We miss you all.

**1st Grade News**

In January, Fabulous Firsties are learning about 2D shapes and Arctic animals. We have written about how Arctic animals stay warm in the frozen North. We talked about our favorite Arctic animal and it seems that Arctic wolves are a big favorite! Our work in Seesaw keeps us busy as does our Math in Zearn and grammar in Lalilo. We are looking forward to coming back into our classroom to see our friends and work together but keep our 6 feet distance to stay safe. Happy New Year from the Fabulous Firsties at Cimarron Elementary!

**2nd Grade News**

In 2nd grade we are reviewing shapes and practicing being better sentence writers. We are wrapping up our Solar System unit and will be writing reports on our favorite planet. We have been working hard with Mrs. Vigil to learn about coins and counting money. 2nd graders are becoming such amazing online students, but are very excited and hopeful to be back in the classroom soon.

**3rd Grade News**

In January, the 3rd grade Gardeners are learning about 3 specific dinosaurs, the habitats they lived in, their specific traits and attributes, and why scientists think they became extinct. These 3 dinosaurs are: diplodocus, saber tooth tiger, and diatryma. We are also beginning our math unit on multiplication...we are pretty sure we’ll breeze right through it because we’ve been learning about multiplication and our facts through 12 since the beginning of the school year!

**4th Grade News**

For the month of January, the Fabulous Fourth Grade will be studying lines, line segments, points, rays, perpendicular and parallel lines. We will also learn how to measure angles, and use linear measurement.

 In LA we will recall important information from print, digital sources, and notes. Apply strategies to assist in making sense of material. For example, making inferences, using visualization, making connections, and formulating questions and conclusions about what we are learning.

 Science will find us learning about the layers of the Earth’s atmosphere as well as how weather occurs and how this affects climates in the world.

To conclude, Fourth Grade will be learning about the Northeast Region of the United States. We will discuss the geography, economics, culture, and natural resources in that region.

**CEMS Art News**

For the month of January in the elementary art classes we are learning how to recognize the elements of art in our surroundings and in artwork We are having lots of fun and sharing lots of laughs. For the 5th and 6th grades, we are experimenting with different shading techniques and studying the element of form to give our artwork more depth and 3 dimensional aspects.

**7th Grade NM History News**

New Mexico History looks back at 2020. While the year may have taken opportunities away from us, it also allowed us to make new connections. On November 5, 2020, Billy Dawson joined Seventh Grade via Google Meets. Billy, a country music artist and published author, spoke with the students about pushing through the difficult challenges of life. He encouraged the kids by saying, “Keep your heads and hearts up!”

Students were asked to share their thoughts about our guest speaker. The responses, genuine and heartfelt, were then shared with Billy. His response was immediate. He was so touched by their words, and he became determined to find a way to meet the students in person. Visiting family in Eagle Nest for Christmas, Billy was available and on December 22, 2020 we were able to make the “meet and greet” happen. He spent about two hours with the students who were available to attend. He shared that he had written a song two or three years before, but he had never performed it or set it to music. Meeting this group of students in November inspired him to set the song to music and make a recording. He played this song for its first audience that day, our very own group of seventh graders. Billy is willing to join middle school classes again this semester. He even had some ideas of some other well known artists that just might be willing to make a Google Meets appearance in the near future.

**CEMS Band News**

The CEMS band students, under the direction of Miss Laura Eberhardt, are doing some amazing things, even through a virtual band class. They have contributed to music for our Veteran’s day and Christmas videos that can be found on our Cimarron Municipal Schools, NM facebook page.

**BOX TOPS**

We collect Box tops at Cimarron Elementary/Middle School. The box tops collected are sent in and submitted for items for our school. Please send/bring them in and place them in the big yellow box in the middle school hall.

**ATTENDANCE**

Please remember that we do have an attendance policy at CEMS. Your child's attendance is critical to their learning...if they aren't there to receive their instruction, then it makes it much harder to learn the concepts and complete the assignments. Please make sure your child is logged in to each live class ON TIME every day so that he/she can be successful in his/her classes. They must be logged in to the live class, have their camera on (unless otherwise directed by the teacher), and participate in the class to be counted as present.

**Check out the district website,** [**www.cimarronschools.org**](http://www.cimarronschools.org/)**, for school and district information, the monthly newsletter, and much more! You can also find great things on our “Cimarron Municipal Schools, NM” district facebook page.**

**If you, or your organization, have any announcements, events, etc. to be included in our monthly newsletters, please email it to** **jmartinez@cimarronschools.org** **by the 3rd Friday of the month, in order for it to go out on the next month's newsletter.** **If you would like a hard copy of our newsletter sent home with your child (or have it mailed to you) instead of receiving it via email or the website, please email Jody Martinez at the email address above.**